

DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY
OFFICE OF THE CHIEF OF NAVAL OPERATIONS
WASHINGTON 25, D. C.

Op-923/mvg
10 Sept 1958

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FILE

MEMORANDUM TO: Distribution List

Subject: Briefing on Sputnik III

1. Mr. John W. Townsend, Jr., a scientist at the Naval Research Laboratory, engaged in design instrumentation on upper air research using both rockets and satellites, has recently returned from Moscow where he attended an international conference on rocketry. During this conference he had an opportunity to inspect closely a full scale model of the nosecone of Sputnik III, including its instrumentation. He discussed this equipment, its functioning and results, in detail with Russian scientists.

2. While the results of Mr. Townsend's trip will be made the subject of various written reports, there has been considerable interest expressed in having Mr. Townsend present his observations at a briefing. Accordingly, he has agreed to give a short talk on Sputnik III with emphasis on his observations and evaluations.

3. This talk will be presented in the Pentagon, Room 5A1070, on Thursday, 18 September 1958 at 1530. A Secret clearance will be required. Addressees should submit nominations for attendance to Op-923T, Room 5A678, by 1200 - 17 September 1958. Nominations should include name, rank or GS-rating and certification of clearance.

Comdr. Fambion Tmg/Ber
X - 71326

V. L. Lowrance
V. L. LOWRANCE

Acting Director of Naval Intelligence

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